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FM AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2293
INFO RUEHZG/NATO EU COLLECTIVE IMMEDIATE
RUEHUNV/USMISSION UNVIE VIENNA IMMEDIATE 0169
RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHINGTON DC IMMEDIATE
RUEHVEN/USMISSION USOSCE IMMEDIATE 0443

C O N F I D E N T I A L THE HAGUE 001002

SIPDIS

E.O. 12958: DECL: 12/02/2018
TAGS: [PARM](#) [NATO](#) [MOPS](#) [PREL](#) [NL](#)
SUBJECT: NETHERLANDS/ FM TO SIGN CLUSTER MUNITIONS
CONVENTION

REF: A. STATE 125512
[1](#)B. STATE 125608
[1](#)C. THE HAGUE 00684
[1](#)D. TIBILISE 01552

Classified By: Political-Economic Counselor Andrew C. Mann
for reasons 1.5(b,d)

(C) Head of the Nuclear Affairs and Non-Proliferation Division, Henk cor van der Kwast, confirmed that the Dutch Foreign Minister, Maxime Verhagen, will sign the Convention on Cluster Munitions on Wednesday, December 3, in Oslo, Norway. Pol-Mil Officer delivered points from reftels on December 2 to Kwast who added that the Dutch feel that Article 21 is flexible enough for military alliances and bilateral relationships. He indicated there will be some pressure from some NGOs and other countries in support of a more narrow interpretation of Article 21 but that it should not be a significant issue for the Netherlands. At the signing ceremony the FM may comment on Dutch journalist Stan Storimans, who was killed August 12, 2008 by a Russian cluster munition (Reftel c and d).

CULBERTSON